

SEYMOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING
Seymour Middle School

April 22, 2009
7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Baker, Chairman
Frederick Stanek
Judith Flood
Jeanne Loda
James Garofolo
Rose Marie Yitts
Rhonda Geffert
James Ward
Jason Buchsbaum

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

Joseph Kassay

OTHERS PRESENT:

MaryAnne Mascolo, Superintendent
Richard Belden, Assistant Superintendent of Finance &
Operations

Christine Syriac, Associate Superintendent

Mary Lavoie, Curriculum Director

Edward L. Strumello, Mary Sue Feige, Kristen Bruno

Charles Ricco, Donna & Julie Gamble, Pat Sabatini, Debi Durette, Matthew Cassese, Colleen & Dale Steeves, Raeanne Geffert, Allison Acquavella, Kelley Garofalo, Julie Riberio & Juliana Soares, Jenna & Jim Geffert, Ken Pereiras

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Bruce Baker, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:30 p.m.

II. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

A) Recognitions:

1. Ms. Mascolo congratulated Mr. Kearns on securing a mini grant from the International Safe Kids Program. The \$2,000 grant will be used to purchase traffic safety related signs and items for the LoPresti School to improve traffic safety for our students.
2. Congratulations to Chris Durette and Tyler Tallcouch for participation on the All-Naugatuck Valley League Boys Swim Team.
3. Congratulation to Joe Kassay for being named one of six national athletes named to the NSIC Academic All-American Team.
4. Congratulations to John Murphy who was recognized by the Connecticut Post and the Republican American as Athlete of the Week.

B) Board Correspondence: Mrs. Yitts reviewed the correspondence.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Ken Pereiras, Seymour High School Softball Coach, said the score board from the National Guard is going to happen. He is hoping the score board will be put up with in the next two weeks. Mr. Pereiras is hoping to be able to hold the National Guard Appreciation night. He said the appreciation night would be a way to say thank you for the help.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. All items were removed from the consent agenda

V. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

A. 1. Approval of BOE minutes for April 6, 2009

09-3747 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the minutes of the regular BOE meeting of April 6, 2009 with the following correction – page 2 item VI C it should have read ...the Board of Selectmen to approve the construction manager and the architect.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts Mr. Ward, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mrs. Geffert Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Garofolo

2. Approval of Special BOE meeting – April 2, 2009

09-3748 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting of April 2, 2009.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Yitts Mr. Ward, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mrs. Geffert Mr. Baker, Mrs. Loda, Mrs. Flood,

ABSTAINED: Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

B Staff Hiring – Certified Staff

1. Andrea Lund-Teixeira – Language Arts Consultant – Step 9 Masters – Bungay School

09-3749 MOTION: (Mr. Stanek, sec., Mrs. Flood) to table the motion to hire Andrea Lund-Teixeira until after the budget vote.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek

OPPOSED: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts

The motion was defeated

09-3750 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Andrea Lund-Teixeira as Language Arts Consultant Step 9 Masters in the Seymour School district.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts

OPPOSED: Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

C. Staff Hiring – Non Certified Staff

1. Karen Heslin – Instructional Paraprofessional – Special Ed – Chatfield School

09-3751 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Karen Heslin as Instructional Paraprofessional – Special Education at Chatfield School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek

OPPOSED: Mr. Garofolo

2. Kelli Wrogg – Instructional Paraprofessional – Special Ed – Bungay School

09-3752 MOTION: (Mrs. Yitts, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for hire of Kelli Wrogg as Special Education Instructional Paraprofessional at Bungay School.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

09-3753 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mrs. Flood) to move item VI B Bungay School Grade 5 students up on the agenda.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

VI B. Bungay School Grade 5 students – Student Newsletter

Raeanne Geffert from Bungay School's fifth grade told Board Members about the school's monthly newsletter. She said some of the items in the newsletter were poems, recipes and articles of interest to the students. The rest of the students at the meeting introduced themselves and told Board Members about articles they worked on for the newsletter. Some of the students said they worked on articles in collaboration with one another. Mrs. Geffert commended the teachers for the newsletter and how well they work together.

D. Finance Committee – April 22, 2009

1. Approve the acceptance of the Financial Management Summary Ending March 31, 2009
- 2 Approve the proposed budget transfers as presented

09-3754 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to ratify the Financial Management Summary ending March 31, 2009 and approve the proposed budget transfers as follows: transfer from account numbers 110 \$5,013; 111 \$167,662; 112 \$13,985; 115 \$35,866; 118 \$6,852; 119 \$16,425; 250 \$8,915 to accounts 117 \$3,175; 260 \$102,650; 295 \$27,319; 431 \$54,745; 433 \$19,485; 450 \$28,845; 731 \$18,529

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS:

A) Student Representatives Report –

Joe told Board members that the Thursday before the spring break the high school held a pep rally recognizing the spring sports. He also said A.P. Testing will start in early May.

B) Bungay School 5th grade students – moved to earlier in the meeting

C) Federal Emergency Management Agency's promotional video was tabled to another meeting.

D) School Improvement Plan Progress – Mary Sue Feige

Mrs. Feige reviewed Bungay School's goals from the beginning of the school year and the action plan with Board Members. Mrs. Feige showed Board Members, through data, how the grade levels have improved. Mrs. Feige's PowerPoint presentation also showed Board Members that many other things happen at Bungay School that is beyond the data. She thanked Board Members for approving the lap top carts. The students have enjoyed using them.

E) The "Pawprint" Student Newsletter – Seymour High School
The Pawprint was provided for Board Members' review.

F) Chairman's Report –

Mr. Baker told Board Members that Mr. Warecke had worked out a deal with Middlesex Community College to purchase select shop equipment for \$28,000. Mr. Baker said once the school system is no longer using equipment it reverts back to town property. Ms Mascolo said they thought the money earned from the sale of the equipment could be used to resurface the track. Mr. Baker and Ms Mascolo brought the

proposal to the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen approved the transaction and will put the money in a separate account. Ms. Mascolo said they are working with the town auditors.

Mr. Stanek asked about the rejected leasing of the SYAM Program. Ms. Mascolo said she talked to the administrators about conserving electricity. Mr. Garofolo said the administrations should make it a goal to reduce the electricity costs in a building. Mr. Buchsbaum said he is concerned it has been 6-8 weeks and nothing has been done internally to conserve electricity. He suggested sending something around to turn off computer and lights. Try this for 60-90 days and see what happens.

G) Superintendent's Report –

Ms. Mascolo told Board Members of the 6th Annual Seymour High School Student Art Show to be held at the Greenwich Workshop. She also showed Board Members thank you notes from the students at Bungay School thanking them for the Lap Top carts. Ms. Mascolo said there were two slots left for Board Members for the trip to Philadelphia to the Bill Gates School on May 27th.

Meetings – Transportation Committee May 5th at 12:30 p.m.

Health & Nutrition Committee – May 5th at 1:30p.m. (Immediately following the Transportation Committee meeting)

VII RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A) Review and approve the Seymour Public Schools 2009-2012 Technology Plan that was recommended for approval by ACES

09-3755 MOTION: (Mrs. Geffert, sec., Mrs. Loda) to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2009-2012 Technology Plan as presented.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

Mr. Ward said he thought the promotion of the National Guard at the appreciation night could be toned down. Mrs. Loda agreed she said she did not have any problem with the night as long as it is toned down. Mrs. Geffert said the flier needs to be toned down and the team should not be required to wear the National Guard tee shirt. Mr. Stanek said the team members should not be obligated to attend the appreciation night. It was also discussed that there should not be any active recruitment that evening.

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

IX ADJOURNMENT

09-3756 MOTION: (Mrs. Loda, sec., Mrs. Geffert) to adjourn the meeting.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Loda, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Geffert, Mr. Buchsbaum, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Yitts, Mrs. Flood, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Garofolo

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Submitted by
Sharon Ewaskie, Clerk